Rustam Orazaliyev

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Keys Stahl

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My topic

At the awards ceremony, I was holding a bronze medal, *my* bronze medal. “Now is the best time to read teacher’s letter,” thought I. I pulled the hesitated envelope out of my inner jacket pocket and with a smile looked at the words, “Still want to go home?” I opened the envelope and saw two pieces of paper. “You didn’t back down; we know that you will not let us down,” was written on the first paper I pulled out, I looked to the signature and saw surname of person who formed our national team.

Despite the fact that I was worse than any other team member, jury gave me an opportunity to participate that Mathematics Competition, they did so because they thought that I was a person who never gives up. The most powerful people in the education sector of Kazakhstan believed in me and allowed to represent my country just because they thought that I wouldn’t back down. Thanks to their deed, I understood that people who keep fighting even when their chances to achieve are incredibly small not only approach success but also inspire hope in others.

Great achievements grow out of fragile hope. Hope is a first step of the grand trip to the dream and until people see real examples of great success, the hope will live in their hearts. Only a person who believes in achievement and strives for that in spite of all adversities, can lead others. Such person is like a beacon that helps to stay on the road to dream. All great regents had strong wills that didn’t allow them to back down. Zhangir Khan, a great king of Kazakh nation, was outcast after he returned from captivity. My nation believed that every single person caught by enemies must kill oneself because all secrets must die with captive. Therefore, returning from captivity was shame but Zhangir’s deeds gained people’s trust and sooner army of ten thousand people was defeated by detachment of six hundred men, headed by Zhangir Khan. This example reminds people of my nation that there is no no-win scenario and dreams are worth fighting for them.

Every great achievement is named so because they seem impossible to reach. However, people, who have been the main reason for these accomplishments, stubbornly marching towards their dream coping with all difficulties encountered on their way. Confucius, one of the greatest of Western thinkers, said, “Strong is not the one who didn’t fall but who managed to rise after falling.” The majority of people who have contributed to the development of humanity fell and found strength to keep fighting. Success may not come immediately but every hardship every failure makes people stronger and opens bigger opportunities for them. Thomas Edison had had six thousand failures before he created electric bulb. After each failure he was saying that he got closer to his aim on one step, so each failure brought him nearer to the goal. Abraham Lincoln, American National hero, couldn’t succeed in business; twice he went bankrupt, eight times he was defeated in run for different posts in government, probably these failures made him one of the greatest President of United States. These people are just a few out of hundreds writers of history who were strong enough to rise under the weight of difficulties. Successes do not make people stronger but difficulties and failures do because they harden people’s character. Before excluding me from national team I had won everything I could and these successes didn’t make me stronger, they just inserted fear in my soul, fear of losing. Therefore, event happened May 17th was my first difficulty and even if I couldn’t rise without help of my teacher, this difficulty has changed my life, I became stronger, now I am not afraid of difficulties and I am ready and eager to face with them. If people faced and passed through failures and difficulties, next barriers they will face wouldn’t stop them because these people have already gone through a lot. I call such people writers of history because they were hosts of own lives, they were building own future, own lives; their decisions determined stroke of history and they were building the world we know. As long as your heart is beating, you can write your own story. I write mine, do you?

Humanity has tremendous opportunities and people have proved that each person can build own wonderful future and change any aspects of own life to the better. However, people are not able to change the past. Unfortunately, opportunities lost in the past are usually lost forever. Regrets about the past pursue people for the years and some people can’t get rid of them for the whole life. People blame themselves and eager to go back in time but until time machine is not discovered the only way to solve this problem is to fight for own goals, to be ready to sacrifice everything for the dream, to look in the face of difficulties and not to run away from them, to write own life in the way that there will be nothing to regret about. And I do so, I was lucky not to lose opportunity to represent my country after my failure but in any way even now I blame myself for the weakness I showed, my self esteem has suffered and my pride will not survive after another manifestation of weakness.

Even if people striving for their dreams didn’t succeed yet, they would not have anything to blame themselves because they did everything they could. Even if people rising after any failures didn’t succeed yet, these failures just make them stronger. Even if people desperately struggling for own goals didn’t succeed yet, they can encourage others to perform a feat. Once Winston Churchill said, “Never, never, never give up.” And if after all that you have read in that paper you ask, “Why would I do that?” I will respond, the answer is because *you can* and *you will*.